



U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers ®
Charleston District

Section 103 – Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction

Point of Contact: Joseph Jones
Phone: 843-329-8160
E-mail: joseph.jones@usace.army.mil

What is it?

Section 103 gives the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers the authority to plan, design and construct measures to provide protection to public properties against damages caused by storm driven waves and ocean currents. Section 103 projects cannot be undertaken on private beaches or where no public access to the beach exists.

Who can apply?

Any non-Federal government entity can serve as the Sponsor for a Section 103 project. In some cases, non-government agencies may serve as Sponsors. All it takes is a simple request to the local Corps office and a representative will discuss your problem with you and let you know if you qualify for the program.

What does it cost?

- The initial \$100,000 of any Section 103 Feasibility Study is paid 100% by the Federal Government.
- All additional feasibility expenditures are cost shared at a rate of 50% Federal, 50% Sponsor. The Sponsor may contribute 100% of their share as in-kind services.
- Plans and specifications costs and construction costs are cost shared 65% Federal, 35% Sponsor. Plans and specifications costs are recouped at the beginning of the construction period.
- There is a spending cap of \$3 million of Federal expenditure per Section 103 project.

How long does it take?

A typical Section 103 study has two main parts, the feasibility phase and the construction phase. The feasibility study includes all alternatives analysis, design work, NEPA compliance and benefit-cost analysis. From the beginning of the feasibility phase until project approval takes up to three years. Construction time varies depending on the solution being implemented, but typically takes up to 12 months.